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E.O. 12958: N/A TAGS: <u>CASC</u> <u>ASEC</u> <u>BM</u>

SUBJECT: Travel Alert - Burma

- 11. This Travel Alert updates American citizens on safety conditions within Burma. American citizens residing in or traveling to Burma should continue to defer nonessential travel to the Irrawaddy Delta region of the country. The Burmese government has restricted access to this area for all but authorized relief workers. The U.S. Embassy in Rangoon has ended the authorized departure of non-essential personnel and family members of mission staff. This Travel Alert replaces the Travel Warning issued on May 5, 2008, and expires on September 30, 2008.
- 12. The environment in Rangoon, Burma's most populous city and other areas outside of the Irrawaddy Delta has gradually improved. Electrical power and water supply have been restored in most areas and markets are now operating normally.
- 13. The harder-hit Irrawaddy Delta region is still without many basic necessities, and the risk of outbreaks of disease remains high. The United Nations, ASEAN, and others in the international community, including the United States, are providing international relief assistance to meet both immediate and long-term needs. The Burmese Government has restricted access to this area for people other than relief workers it has authorized. American citizens should defer nonessential travel to the Irrawaddy Delta region.
- 14. The Department of State and the Embassy in Rangoon are following developments closely. For the latest security information, U.S. citizens living and traveling abroad should regularly monitor the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs website at http://travel.state.gov, where the current Worldwide Cautions, Travel Alerts, and Travel Warnings can be found. Security information can also be obtained by calling 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the U.S. and Canada or, from other areas, by calling a regular toll

line at 1-202-501-4444. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays).

- 15. U.S. citizens in Burma are encouraged to register with the Department of State or the U.S. Embassy. Registration can be done on-line through the State Department's travel registration website, https://travelregistration.state.gov/ibrs, or via the Embassy's website, http://burma.usembassy.gov. Americans in Burma who do not have internet are welcome to register in person or by telephone. The Embassy can provide limited email service for American citizens seeking to inform family members of their safety and welfare; please ask the Consular Section for more information.
- 16. The Embassy is located at 110 University Ave, Kamayut Township, Rangoon. The Embassy's phone numbers are (95-1) 536-509, 536-756, and 538-038. The Consular Section's extension is 4240, and email address is ConsularRangoo@state.gov. The Embassy's after-hours emergency numbers are the same as above, all followed by extension 4014. The after-hours mobile phone number is 09-512-4330 (calling inside Burma) or 95-9-512-4330 (calling from outside Burma). The Embassy's hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday (except U.S. federal and Burmese holidays).
- ¶7. Minimize considered. RICE